

CHIEF BEHRENS WAS IN CITY YESTERDAY

MADE ADDRESS LAST NIGHT
TO FIREMEN, AND CITY
OFFICIALS

TOURING THE STATE

And is Giving Instructions About
Fire Prevention and How to
Successfully Fight Them.

Chief Behrens of the Charleston Fire Department and president of the South Carolina Firemen's association was in the city yesterday in his tour over the state giving instructions in regard to the prevention and fighting of fires and last night addressed the members of the local fire department, the mayor, members of council and others.

Chief Behrens instead of going to the National Firemen's convention this year is traveling over the state at the request of Insurance Commissioner McMaster, visiting the principal towns and cities and telling them how he has been so successful in combating fires.

Last night in his speech he urged that measures be taken in Anderson that would insure better protection. He stated that the equipment was not large enough and that the water pressure was not strong enough.

His address was as follows:

At the request of Insurance Commissioner McMaster and as president of the South Carolina State Firemen's association, I am here today to address you on the subjects of:

First: Fire prevention.

Second: Benefits of inspection of buildings by firemen.

Third: Extinguishing fires so as to decrease water damages.

The subject of inspection by the members of the fire department has been discussed in practically every fire department of any importance, and I do not propose to go into the subject from a theoretical standpoint, but rather wish to show what the department to which I belong has done and is doing and to give the reasons underlying what we do.

There are two principal reasons underlying inspection by the fire department. One is to educate the firemen; and the other to see that the laws of the city or state are carried out. If a fire department keeps down the fire loss and keeps its city in a safe condition by reducing the fire risk to a minimum, it has done next to the best possible work in public service.

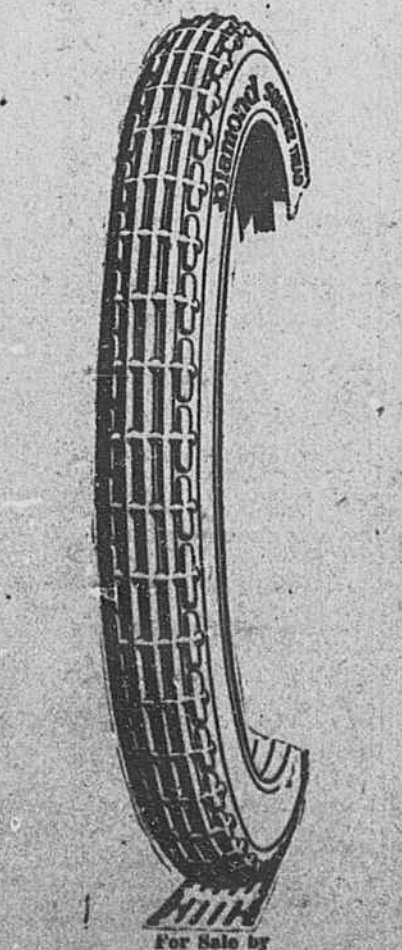
We all know that the annual fire loss of this country is enormous, and

TAKE MY ADVICE

---Mr. Squeegee

"There are some motorists who seem to expect fire trouble—think that, like measles, you've got to have 'em."

I Prescribe
DIAMOND
Squeegee
Tread
TIRES



Anderson Hardware Co

that this loss is increasing. We also know that the only remedy we can use to reduce this fire waste is the constant application of fire prevention and increased efficiency of our fire departments.

The average per capita fire loss in the United States is three dollars. The per capita losses of European cities run from twenty-five cents for Berlin, thirty-cents for Bremen, forty-seven cents for Paris, fifty cents or London to one dollar and forty-two cents for Petrograd. In six European countries the average fire loss thirty-three cents per capita.

In these countries there are eight fires each year for each ten thousand of the population. In the United States there are forty-five for each ten thousand inhabitants.

The chief reason for the greater fire loss in the United States is our carelessness. Each citizen in this country pays a tax of three dollars a year because somebody throws burning matches or cigarettes, or because railroad locomotives rush through the country throwing sparks upon inflammable material.

Insurance rates in this country are so high as to be almost a hardship to the property owner. They are high because of the national vice of negligence. Because the general public do not take a special precaution to prevent fires.

Much can be accomplished through legislation, as well as education, as nearly 60 to 70 per cent of fires are preventable.

By education, I mean calling attention of the public at large to the manner in which fires can be prevented. By legislation, I mean the enacting of suitable building codes, looking toward the prevention of fires, and enactment and enforcement of building code and fire prevention ordinances.

Fire protection will never be taken seriously until the property holder realizes that the insurance companies do not pay the losses. Were every fire insurance company to be legislated out of existence tomorrow, our citizens would almost immediately undergo a change of heart. Every law-making body would busy itself with fire prevention measures, and the property holder would be insistent for this legislation. The only difference between such a condition and that under which we are now living, is that without insurance companies the individual would bear his own losses, while under the system now in vogue, the community bears it for him; the insurance company acting as the collector and distributor of the assessment. Hence it is that carelessness and every criminal act resulting in a fire are paid for by the community at large. Let the chiefs, in their fire prevention work, help drive this fact home to the people, and I have no hesitation in saying that when it really dawns on them as an incontrovertible truth, great headway will be made in the desired direction.

Two-thirds or three-fourths of our fires are preventable. How? Not by putting them out before they get well started, but by preventing them from starting at all. That's the best lesson you have to learn.

Our law provides that the "Chiefs of the fire department shall have the right at all reasonable hours for the purpose of examination, to enter into and upon all buildings and premises within their jurisdiction. Whenever any said officer shall find in any building or upon any premises combustible material or inflammable conditions, dangerous to the safety of such building or premises, they shall order the same to be removed and such order shall be forthwith complied with by the owner or occupant of said building or premises. Anyone failing to comply with the orders of the authorities, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten dollars for each day neglect."

Are you complying with this law? Are you enforcing it? If not, begin now thoroughly yet in a courteous manner. You may find some opposition at first but, eventually, performing this duty will bring commendation for both the man and the profession. Our legislators, recognizing and dangerous duties of the firemen, have in their wisdom, imposed a tax of one cent, upon all fire insurance premiums collected in the different cities and towns of South Carolina for the firemen of the state known as the "Firemen's Tax Fund." The conditions of which are that no city or town is entitled to share in these funds for its firemen unless it has a regularly organized fire department; and furthermore must have fire apparatus and equipment in serviceable condition valued at not less than one thousand dollars. It is very important here to call your attention to the fact that in the next six months, according to the law "every city, town must pass suitable ordinances to be approved by the insurance commissioner of our state, providing a building and inspection code for the proper erection and inspection of all buildings in the said respective towns and cities, so as to eliminate, so far as may be the danger of fire arising from defective construction, and the presence and existence of inflammable and combustible materials and conditions."

Is it not in keeping with advanced ideas that we awake to the importance of fire prevention? Most emphatically yes, and he who disregards it is behind the times. Stricter building regulations are a prime essential in every city, town and village in the United States where less by fire is enormous, and now the question is: How is this great loss to be decreased? One way is to see that every building erected shall be under the supervision of a building inspector. He should take care of the interest of the owner, but his first duty should be to his community. I am sure that when our cities and towns adopt proper building codes and have inspections, the fire waste of South Carolina will be greatly diminished, and insurance rates decreased, thereby saving thousands of dollars to the insurance companies by reduced losses as well as to our citizens by reduced rates.

Now just a few words as to the benefits derived by the department from systematic inspection. Education has come to mean a thorough and intelligent knowledge of your particular job—and a fireman has to be made—just as a man in any other trade or profession is made, by educating him in fire fighting.

Many years ago I inaugurated building inspection in the Charleston department. At first it was not properly appreciated by the men, but it became more interesting and impressive, and after several bad looking fires had been readily cut off because the men knew the buildings, the inspection system became a very important duty and one that was heartily executed. I will say, as a chief that I have maintained building inspection for several years up to the present, along with training in fire prevention, and building inspection will be carried out by any fire department that I command, because I know from personal experience the valuable results of this work. I know that fire prevention and building inspection are paying propositions to the fire department and to the city I represent. One benefit is the saving of insurance that comes not only to the owner of a building, but to the tenant as the rating bureau when fixing insurance rates makes the rate as conditions exist at the time of inspection, and charges a penalty for fire hazards and defects. Both the building and the contents must bear this penalty, but when fire hazards or defects are corrected the penalty is removed; so the fire department which carries on this work may be sure that they are not only benefiting themselves, but the public as well.

I deem it here proper to mention a few points of prevention that should be carefully noted by the firemen on their rounds of inspection which I hope may prove of some benefit.

Look out for danger from the disposal of ashes.

See that there are metal or sand boxes under stoves.

Insist on stove pipes being safely and properly secured.

Guard against defective flues and defective fire hearths.

Pay special attention to collars and attics where inflammable materials are likely to be stored.

Likewise pay special attention to the storage of dangerous chemicals that when ignited are combustible, or from which poisonous fumes emanate, so that the lives of the fire men may be safeguarded.

Carefully locate stairways, elevator shafts and fire escapes.

Study each building in relation to ignition to or from adjacent buildings; consider it also in regard to its own construction with a view to anticipating the travel of fire in event of its origin in any part of the building; in this way the problem may be studied out a leisure and if the worst happens the extinguishment may be accomplished scientifically, for each building presents a different type of fire to combat.

Take your officers into consultation with you in these matters and thereby make their time between fires both interesting to themselves and valuable to the department and the community it serves.

The following plan I have adopted in my city with satisfactory results: Once each month or oftener, if deemed advisable, all buildings in the mercantile section are inspected. This territory is divided into eleven districts, with a foreman and assistant foreman at the head of, are responsible for, each district. These foremen are required to change districts in rotation every month, and also to report to headquarters any defects found.

The number of building inspected by our department in Charleston during the last year was 8,510, and I find that these inspections greatly reduced the number of alarms and prevented great loss. I find this system, moreover, very beneficial, both in keeping buildings and premises clean and in good condition, and in helping the firemen at their work. For in case of fire they know how to get in and out of a burning building that has been inspected, without difficulty.

I wish to say that where such a system is in vogue, it is best that no stated time for inspecting buildings, be adopted since under this condition the inspection is anticipated and consequently prepared for. By all means let every department in the state adopt a good system of fire inspection and adhere to it rigidly, for its importance in the fight against the demon, fire, can hardly be over-estimated, and the benefits are great and well worth striving for, because fire prevention is half of the battle.

an inadequate water supply, rotten hose, and imperfect nozzles. A town or city that is so penny-wise and pound-foolish as to attempt to economize on its fire department sooner or later pays dearly for its mistake.

There are many other ways to decrease water damages, but these few suggestions are presented, and I would suggest to every department to respond to every alarm with at least one apparatus (motor if possible) equipped with chemical tank, smoke helmets, and 2 1/2 inch hose, using only the chemical tank, unless discretion dictates otherwise.

I would urge upon every department to equip themselves with one or two tarpaulins after extinguishing roof fires to protect buildings and contents from rain, until repairs are made.

Every fireman knows that there are two elements of destruction connected with a fire; first, the loss occasioned by the actual burning of the property; and second, damage from misdirected and unnecessary amount of water in attempting to extinguish the flames. In almost every case of partial burning of personal property the monetary loss occasioned by too much water at the wrong place is often many times greater than the damage from fire itself.

The first lesson a young fireman should learn is that he must fight the fire and not the smoke. Throw water or chemicals on the flames and the smoke will disappear, but if you throw water on the smoke you will only succeed in adding damages to loss and in no way extinguish the fire or stop the conflagration. He must be taught that throwing water on smoke has not and never will put out a fire. He must find the base of the fire and get at it. One gallon of water at the base of the fire is worth one hundred gallons elsewhere.

When you have once definitely located the fire, you have won half the battle. The fire can then be fought from below or above, or both, as the circumstances of the building may suggest. Don't throw water against the wall and thereby flood the building, nor stand in the street playing into windows and thereby flood the building, but go right after the fire itself.

In case you locate the fire upon the second or third floor, and flames are bursting out of building and in no way you can enter same, and the fire must be handled from the outside upon arrival of apparatus place your ladders in such a position so that his head will only be above window sill, in such a position he will be able to direct stream in any direction and put water to the flames in a steady stream.

All you can do in a case of this kind is to minimize the damage by not throwing any more water than is actually necessary to extinguish the flames. When you have put out the fire, cut off the water.

In case you reach a fire in its infancy, such as an explosion of a lamp, or a small fire in a store or dwelling, it is best to use extinguishers, or a small nozzle, about 3-8 of an inch.

No fire department can do good and efficient service unless it is equipped with the best and modern apparatus for fire fighting. Loyalty, enthusiasm and ability in a fireman can count but little when he has to fight fire with

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You'll know it next morning because you will wake up feeling fine, your liver will be working, your head-ache and dizziness gone, your stomach will be sweet and bowels regular. You will feel like working. You'll be cheerful; full of energy, clear and bright.

Your druggist or dealer sells you a 50 cent bottle of Dodson's Liver Tonic under my personal guarantee that it will clean your sluggish liver better than nasty calomel; it won't make you sick and you can eat anything you want without being salivated. Your druggist guarantees that each spoonful will start your liver, clean your bowels and straighten you up by morning or you get your money back. Children gladly take Dodson's Liver Tonic because it is pleasant tasting and doesn't gripe or cramp or make them sick.

I am selling millions of bottles of Dodson's Liver Tonic to people who have found that this pleasant, vegetable, liver medicine has the place of dangerous calomel. Buy one bottle on my sound, reliable guarantee. Ask your druggist

ODD BITS OF NEWS

Chicago, Ill.—The Northwestern railroad has put a lunch-counter car on the "Golf Special." Chicago's swiftest suburban train. Out-bound golfers now dine at a white enameled counter spanning the entire length of the car, with a row of high seats in front of it, and white garbed waiters assemble a half-minute meal on order.

Chester, W. Va.—Lightning struck a tree near a small farmhouse three miles from here, knocking it through the roof of the house and killing two sisters Miss Nancy Logan, 71, and Mrs. Margaret Wychoff, 74.

Atlanta, Ga.—Fey. G. W. Elchberger, in the current issue of the Georgia Commonwealth, says that women are drinking more liquor than men, while men are drinking less than they did several years ago. He urges a legislative fight to enforce prohibition in Georgia which, though dry, he says, has a blind-tiger in every near-beer stand.

Huntington, W. Va.—Because his wife chewed tobacco in bed, Frances Edgell was granted a divorce and the custody of their four children.

Philadelphia, Pa.—A Christmas greeting mailed in New York more than seven years ago, reached its destination less than 100 miles away last Sunday. The letter was sent by H. C. Pearson, an employee of the Western Union Telegraph company to his wife, who at that time, resided in Allentown, Pa.

Connellsville, Pa.—Frances Cadero, 20 years of age, manages a 76 acre farm near here, including the care of six horses and several cows. She has been in charge of the farm for three years, and has discarded skirts for trousers to work in the field and barn.

Philadelphia, Pa.—When the coast-guard on Joe Ritter's bicycle went broke and the rider was in danger of drowning, he guided his bicycle into a tree. At the impact, the boy was thrown over the handlebars and into the tree, where he rebounded and fell into a crotch and was wedged

What to Eat That Will Help Your Good Looks.

In the August Woman's Home Companion appears a highly practical and exceedingly interesting article by Alice Farnham Leader, a New York physician, entitled "Health and Good Looks." The author gives rules for the girl who wants to look her best. She says that health depends upon food, sleep and fresh air, and not upon pills and prescriptions, and part of what she has to say is reproduced as follows:

"Right eating does not mean giving up the foods you like; it means balancing your menu to get the full value of all foods. The general mixed diet of wholesome food will, as a rule, give more nourishment and strength than overeating of one kind of food. If you find some meat disagreeing with you by all means give it up, but don't straightway conclude that you must become a vegetarian in order to remain well."

"Strike a midway course; if you like meat eat it, but in moderation as a rule only once daily. Fried meat is always indigestible, so avoid it and confine yourself to that which has been roasted, broiled or stewed."

"Vegetables are worth their weight in doctors' fees. Eat plentifully of them, except when they are cooked by frying. This method of cooking not only robs the food of its health value but surrounds it with clogging grease."

Germany's Fake Assumption.

Mobile (Ala.) Register.

Germany's reply embodies a counterproposition which as for its basis the assumption that Germany, owing to her necessities, is justified in establishing "rules of the road" upon a sea highway common to all the world. There is no difference save in degree between this and a claim of right to block the road altogether.

There. Several men loosened him and sent him to a hospital.

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A College With Distinctive Features in the
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An exceptionally fine Department of Music.

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